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REMARKS

Species Election

The Office Action identifies the following four species. Applicants note that, with regard to limitations in the claims, there are three species in actual fact, namely,

- Species I, corresponding to the embodiment of Fig. 1, in which a liquid detector is located within a housing of the blood processing machine proper and a reversible pump is used to create a negative pressure for leak detection;
- Species II, corresponding to the embodiments of Figs. 2, 4, and 6, in which a flow reversing valve is used to create a negative pressure and liquid is detected by a single attachable liquid sensor;
- Species III, corresponding to the embodiment of Fig. 4, in which a flow reversing valve is used to create a negative pressure and liquid is detected by a respective attachable liquid sensors for the blood machine and the flow reversing unit; and

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Species IV, corresponding to the embodiment of Fig. 6,
where where liquid is detected within the housing and
transponders are employed for liquid detection.

Applicants submit that that claims 3, 5, 12, 17, 18, 20,
25, 38, 39, 47, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 69, 70, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79,
81, 82 are generic as may be confirmed by reference to the
following table and the bases given therein.

Claims	Species I	Species II	Species III	Species IV	Basis
3, 5, 12, 17, 18, 20, 25, 38, 39, 47, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 69, 70, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79, 81, 82	X	X	X	X	Generic to all embodiments
13, 14, 19, 40, 42, 62, 80		X	X	X	Recite flow reversing
15, 68, 72, 73, 83	X			X	Recite liquid sensor inside housing
63, 64				X	Recite flow reversing AND liquid sensor inside housing
71, 72	X				Recite reversing pump

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Amendments

The claim amendments correct minor errors and help to ensure they fall within the one of the species classes defined above.

If the Examiner requires clarification of any issues raised in this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 778-1118.

Respectfully submitted,

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